

## CLAIMS

I claim:

1. A chain link fence tightening apparatus for stretching a chain link fence adjacent to and beyond a first vertical post and toward a second vertical post such that the chain link fence may be attached to the first vertical post in a taut manner, said apparatus comprising:

an elongated rod being selectively coupled to a plurality of links of the chain link fence;

a gripping member for removably gripping the second vertical post;

a first cable and a second cable each having a first end and a second end, said first end of said first cable being attached to said rod, said first end of said second cable being attached to said gripping member;

a winding assembly being attached to each of said first and second cables and adapted for pulling said rod and said gripping member toward each other such that the chain link fence is pulled taut.

2. A chain link fence tightening apparatus for stretching a chain link fence adjacent to and beyond a first vertical post and toward a second vertical post such that the chain link fence may be attached to the first vertical post in a taut manner, said apparatus comprising:

an elongated rod having a first end and a second end, wherein said rod may be threaded through the chain link fence such that the rod is mounted on the chain link fence in a substantially vertical orientation;

a gripping member for removably gripping the second vertical post;

a first cable and a second cable each having a first end and a second end, said first end of said first cable being attached to said rod, said first end of said second cable being attached to said gripping member;

a winding assembly being attached to said second end of said first cable, said winding assembly including a spool attached to said second end of said second cable, said winding assembly being adapted for winding or unwinding said second cable onto said spool; and

wherein said gripping member may be positioned on the second vertical post and said winding assembly may wind said second cable onto said spool such that the chain link fence is pulled toward the second vertical post.

3. The apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said rod has a length greater than two feet.

4. The apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said gripping member includes a hook having a curved foot portion and a leg extending away from said foot such that said gripping member is generally J-shaped, said leg having a free end.

5. A chain link fence tightening apparatus for stretching a chain link fence adjacent to and beyond a first vertical post and toward a second vertical post such that the chain link fence may be attached to the first vertical post in a taut manner, said apparatus comprising:

an elongated rod having a first end and a second end, said rod being rigid having a length greater than two feet, wherein said rod may be threaded through the chain link fence such that the rod

is mounted on the chain link fence in a substantially vertical orientation;

a gripping member for removably gripping the second vertical post, said gripping member including a hook having a curved foot portion and a leg extending away from said foot such that said gripping member is generally J-shaped, said leg having a free end, a loop member being attached to said free end of said leg;

a first cable and a second cable each having a first end and a second end, said first end of said first cable being removably attached to said rod, said first end of said second cable being removably attached to said loop member;

a winding assembly being attached to said second end of said first cable, said winding assembly including a spool attached to said second end of said second cable, said winding assembly being adapted for winding or unwinding said second cable on said spool; and

wherein said gripping member may be positioned on the second vertical post and said winding assembly may wind said second cable onto said spool such that the chain link fence is pulled toward the second vertical post.